

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for identification of a protein analyte contained within a microbe comprising:
 - (a) exposing ~~the~~ a solution containing microorganisms to conditions resulting in the rupture of the microorganism resulting in the release of the intracellular components into said solution, where the conditions causing the rupture of the microorganism are ~~and spilling of the contents into the solution~~ selected from the group comprising chemical treatment, holins, enzymatic treatment, freeze-thaw cycling, bacteriophage infection, ~~plasma discharge~~ and physical treatment. treatment;
 - (b) Exposing ~~a~~ the solution containing the released protein analyte to a ligand specific for the analyte of interest that has been covalently tethered with a photostable linker to a substrate surface; surface, wherein the ligand is a peptide specific for the protein analyte of interest;
 - (c) Separating the bound analyte from the non-binding components of the solution containing the analyte by physical separation and washing; and
 - (d) Interrogating the ligand-tethered substrate surface for protein analyte binding wherein the ligand is tethered at a distance of at least forty Å from the substrate surface, and the detection of the bound protein analyte is via intrinsic fluorescence of the captured protein analyte.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)

It is believed the claims are now in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, he is requested to call Applicants' undersigned attorney collect at (801) 521-3200.

Respectfully submitted,



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